IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A material processing system for processing material including a watermark, the material having been watermarked by embedding a watermark code word into the material by combining the watermark code word with predetermined components of the material, the system comprising:

a remover for removing the watermark;

a processor for processing the material from which the watermark has been removed; and

an inserter for inserting a watermark into the processed material; and

a database processor linked to the remover, the database processor being operable to provide the remover with data enabling the removal of the watermark from the material to be processed, the enabling data indicating the predetermined components of the material with which the watermark code word has been combined.

2. (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the processor has a user interface for controlling the processes performed thereby.

3. (Original) A system according to claim 2, wherein the remover and the inserter are arranged to operate automatically and independently of the user.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, ~~further comprising~~ ~~a~~wherein said database processor is linked to the inserter, the database processor containing data enabling insertion of the watermark into the processed material.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein the ~~said~~ enabling data includes an encryption key.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to ~~claim 4~~ claim 1, wherein the inserter and the remover are linked to the database processor by a communications link.

8. (Original) A system according to claim 7, wherein the communications link includes the internet.

9. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 1 arranged to check the authenticity of the said material including the reversible watermark.

10. (Original) A system according to claim 9, arranged to disable the said processor if the material fails the authenticity check.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of processing material including a watermark, the material having been watermarked by embedding a watermark code word into the material by combining the watermark code word with predetermined components of the material, comprising the steps of:

retrieving from a database, data enabling the removal of the watermark included in the material to be processed, the enabling data providing the predetermined components of the material with which the watermark code word has been combined;

removing the watermark using the enabling data;

processing the material from which the watermark has been removed using a processor; and

inserting a watermark into the processed material.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, wherein the steps of removing and inserting are automatic and independent of a user of the processor.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the removal and insertion are hidden from the user.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 11, further comprising wherein the retrieving includes retrieving from a database data enabling the insertion of a watermark into the processed material.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claim 14~~claim 11, wherein the ~~said~~ enabling data includes an encryption key.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~claim 14~~claim 11, wherein the enabling data is retrieved via a communications link.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17, wherein the communications link includes the internet.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 11, comprising the steps of checking the authenticity of the said material including the reversible watermark.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 19, comprising the steps of disabling the processing of the material if the material fails the authenticity check.

21. (Currently Amended) A method of removing data embedded in material comprising the steps of:

receiving material in which data is embedded, the data having been embedded in the material by combining the data with predetermined components of the material;

accessing an information store storing information enabling the data to be removed; and

removing the said data using the enabling data accessed from the store,

wherein the enabling data indicates the predetermined components of the material

with which the data has been combined.

22. (Currently Amended) A method comprising the steps of:

embedding data in material, the data being embedded in the material by

combining the data with predetermined components of the material; and

storing, in an information store, information for enabling the data to be removed

from the material, the information for enabling the data to be removed including an indication of

the predetermined components of the material with which the data has been combined.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus Apparatus for removing data embedded in

material comprising:

an input for receiving material in which data is embedded, the data having been

embedded in the material by combining the data with predetermined components of the material;

an information store for storing information enabling the data to be removed; and

a remover arranged to remove the said data using the enabling data accessed from

the store, wherein the enabling data indicates the predetermined components of the material with

which the data has been combined.

24. (Currently Amended) An apparatus Apparatus comprising:

an embedder for embedding data in material, the data being embedded in the

material by combining the data with predetermined components of the material;

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a store for storing information for enabling the data to be removed from the material, the information for enabling the data to be removed including an indication of the predetermined components of the material with which the data has been combined.

25. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 23 further comprising a generator for generating the enabling information.

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus ~~Apparatus or method~~ according to claim 24, wherein the material is one or more of video material, audio material and data material.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer program product arranged to carry out the method of claim 11 when run on a programmable digital signal processor.

28. (Original) A storage medium storing a computer program product according to claim 27.

29. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 5, wherein the said enabling data includes an encryption key.

32. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 5, wherein the inserter and the remover are linked to the database processor by a communications link.

33. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 8, wherein the inserter and the remover are linked to the database processor by a communications link.

34. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 15, wherein the said enabling data includes an encryption key.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 15, wherein the enabling data is retrieved via a communications link.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35, wherein the communications link includes the internet.

37. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the material is one or more of video material, audio material and data material.

38. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 21, wherein the material is one or more of video material, audio material and data material.

39. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 22, wherein the material is one or more of video material, audio material and data material.

40. (New) A computer program product providing computer executable instructions which, when loaded onto a computer causes the computer to perform a method of processing material including a watermark, the material having been watermarked by embedding a watermark code word into the material by combining the watermark code word with predetermined components of the material, the computer program comprising program code for:

retrieving, from a database, data enabling the removal of the watermark included in the material to be processed, the enabling data providing the predetermined components of the material with which the watermark code word has been combined;

removing the watermark using the enabling data;

processing the material from which the watermark has been removed using a processor; and

inserting a watermark into the processed material.

41. (New) The system according to claim 10, wherein the watermark includes an authorization code, the authenticity check comprising confirming the authenticity of the authorization code.

42. (New) The method according to claim 19, wherein the watermark includes an authorization code, the authenticity check comprising confirming the authenticity of the authorization code.

43. (New) The system according to claim 1, wherein the material is one or more of video material, audio material and data material.

44. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the material is one or more of video material, audio material and data material.